(e) The following steps have been taken by AAI to improve the facilities to upgrade airports:—

(i) The escalator and other such equipment are being upgraded.

(ii) Instructions for use of these equipments have been displayed prominently for the benefit of the users;

(iii) The staff of all the agencies at the airport have been imparted familiarisation training for use of the equipment and for dealing with any unforeseen situation.

(iv) Maintenance procedures have been improved and periodical inspections have been enforced strictly.

Non-Functioning of Cat-II Instrument

454. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether on 5th January, 2000, the Cat-II instrument landing system in Indira Gandhi International Airport failed to work and guide landing of aeroplanes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action propose to make alternative arrangements in case of such equipment failure; and

(d) the remedial action proposed in view of the Indian Pilots Association's strong protest for the use of runway 10 during poor weather?

THE NtNISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The localiser was unserviceable between 1105 hours and 1143 hours on 5-1-2000 due to a communication failure of the remote lines in the critical area of the localiser.

(c) In case of unserviceability of the Cat-II Instrument

Landing System at Runway 28, the operations are resumed on Runway 10 which is equipped with Cat-I Instrument Landing System.

(d) No such protest has been received in this regard.

Declaration of Srinagar Airport as an International Airport

455. SHRI SHARIEF-UD-DIN SHARIQ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the present position' of the proposal of declaring Srinagar (J&K) Airport as International Airport, which has been an old demand of the people and the Government of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) the details of the progress of work at Jammu Airport and by when it is likely to be completed;

(c) the reasons for non-availability of all weather landing and take off facilities at Jammu and Srinagar Airports and when the equipments for the same purpose will be installed on these Airports; and

(d) whether the chartered flights will be allowed to these places if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) At present there is no proposal to declare Srinagar airport as international airport.

(b) the work for the expansion and modification of the Terminal Building and expansion of Apron at Jammu airport has been awarded and is likely to be completed by March, 2001.

(c) All weather operational facilities are already available at Srinagar airport. Jammu airport has Cat-I Instrument Landing System (ILS) facility. It is proposed to also provide runway edge lights, CAT-II ILS and approach lighting system for all weather operations in the runway extension project for the purpose, the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir is in the process of acquiring 54.68 acres of land.

(d) Chartered flights are not permitted to Jammu and Srinagar